

# E-LIS: A Step towards redefining Open Access

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*Abstract: The past few years have seen tremendous developments in information production, acquisition, and dissemination. Providing access to information free of charge in electronic formats is a concept that is gaining momentum. Open Access is one step ahead of Free Access. Open Access holds promise to remove both price and permission barriers to the scientific communication by using Internet. Creation of open access archives is a step towards redefining open access. E-LIS is a famous international disciplinary archive in Library and Information Science. The present paper describes creation and maintenance of E-LIS. It also includes content analysis of this archive.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Open access to scholarly information is a burning issue in web based education and research nowadays. Open access has become an increasingly important and potentially divisive issue in recent years, as journal inflation rates have increased. For many librarians and scholars, journal price inflation is itself the central problem and open access is the solution.

Open access holds promise to remove both price and permission barriers to the scientific communication by using Internet. In fact, '**Open Access**' (OA) is a step ahead of "**Free Access**" which removes just the price barriers by providing free access to end-users. Open Access removes the permission barriers as well. In other words, under open Access, the end user not only has free access to the content but also have the right to further distribute the content. <sup>1</sup>

## **2. REDEFINING OPEN ACCESS**

According to Budapest Open Access Initiative, Open Access can be defined as “Free availability on the public internet, permitting any users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles crawl them for indexing, pass them and data to software, or technical barriers others than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself. Authors control over the integrity of their work and the right to be properly acknowledges and cited. The literature that should be freely accessible online is that which scholars give to the world without expectation of payment.”<sup>2</sup>

There are two primary vehicles for delivering open access to research literature viz.

- Open Access Journals
- Open Access Archives

## **3. OPEN ACCESS ARCHIVES**

Open Access self-archiving model is liberal on peer review. It simply provides persistent digital repository where authors/ owners of the content may archive their documents (Pre-referred or Post-referred).

Self –archiving can be achieved in three ways viz.

- Putting articles on author web sites.
- Depositing articles in disciplinary archives.
- Depositing articles in institutional archives and repositories.

## **4. DISCIPLINARY ARCHIVE**

A disciplinary archive provides access to e-prints for one scholarly discipline or multiple scholarly disciplines. A disciplinary archive can be searched or browsed. E-LIS is the famous disciplinary archives for library and information science.

## **5. E-LIS**

E-LIS means E-prints for Library and Information Science (E-LIS) is an international open access archive for e-prints related to Librarianship, Information Science and

Technology, and related application disciplines, in keeping with the objectives of the E-prints movement and the free online scholarship (FOS) Movement.

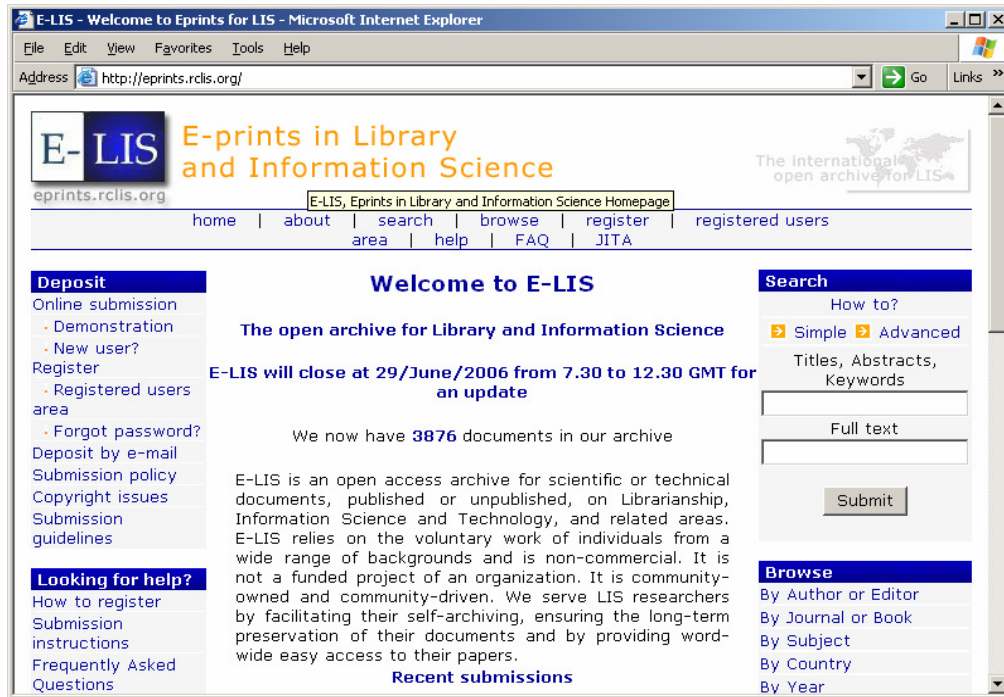
E-LIS was formed in 2003 for the deposit of documents in the Library and Information Science (LIS) domain. It is the first international e-server in this subject area. E-LIS resulted from the RCLIS (Research in Computing, Library and Information Science) Projects DOIS (Documents in Information Science) promoted by the Spanish Ministry of culture. E-LIS relies on the voluntary work of individuals from a wide range of background and is non-commercial.<sup>3</sup>

## **6. CHARACTERISTICS OF E-LIS**

The characteristics of E-LIS are

- Storages and distribution of data from a single location;
- Centralized access control over the supply and re-use of data;
- Checking, cleaning and processing of data according to standard criteria;
- Centralized support service for describing the contents of the data, defining the principles and practices governing the collection of the data, and other relevant properties of the data;
- Cataloguing of the technical and substantive properties of the data for information retrieval and,
- User support following the supply of data.
- An international team of librarians maintains E-LIS.
- E-LIS site is running on open source software. The archive is based on GNU Eprints archive-creating software.
- E-LIS is accessible in two complementary ways. Firstly browsable views are available author/editor, book/journal, subject, country and year. Secondly a search engine is provided in order to seek the bibliographic descriptions. Browsing and searching are anonymous.

Figure No. 1: Home Page of E-LIS



## 7. SUBJECT WISE DISTRIBUTION OF E-PRINTS IN E-LIS

Library and Information Science is a manifold subject having various aspects. It has been observed that E-LIS has made several sub sections to manage the collection of E-prints. Total 12 subject Headings are used by E-LIS. The details are shown in Table No. 1

Table No. 1: Subject wise distribution of E-print in E-LIS (28-06-06)

Sr. No	Subject Heading	No. of prints	%
1	Information Sources, Supports, Channels	1067	17.88
2	Information use & sociology of information	915	15.33
3	Information treatments for information services	684	11.46
4	Information technology & Library technology	682	11.43
5	Libraries as Physical collections	592	9.92
6	Publishing & Legal Issues	427	7.16
7	Technical Services in Library Archives, Museum	339	5.68
8	Theoretical & general aspects of LIS	333	5.58
9	Management	326	5.46
10	Industry, Profession & Education	306	5.13
11	Users, Literacy & Reading	275	4.61
12	Housing technologies	21	0.35
Total		5,967	100

It has been observed from Table No. 1 that total 5967 e-prints are available in E-LIS as on 28.06.2006. 'Information Sources, Supports and Channels' is the dominating subject heading having 1067 (17.88%) e-prints. It is followed by the subject heading 'Information use & sociology of information' having 915 (15.33%) e-prints. The minimum e-prints are reported in the subject heading 'Housing Technology' i.e. only 21 (0.35%).

## 8. CONTINENT WISE DISTRIBUTION OF E-PRINTS IN E-LIS

The continent wise distribution of E-prints in E-LIS as on 28.06.2006 is shown in Table No. 2. It has been observed that Europe dominates in the number of e-prints included in E-LIS i.e. 2292 (38.41%). It is closely followed by others group. 872 (14.61%) e-prints from North and Central America are included. Only 378 (6.33%) e-prints from Asia are included.

**Table No.2: Continent wise distribution of E-prints in E-LIS (as on 28-06-06)**

Sr. No.	Continent	No. of E-prints	Percentage
1	Europe	2292	38.41
2	America-North & Central America	872	14.61
3	Asia	378	6.33
4	America-South America	317	5.31
5	Oceania	33	0.55
6	Africa	31	0.52
7	Others	2044	34.26
Total		5,967	100.00

## 9. COUNTRY WISE DISTRIBUTION OF E-PRINTS IN E-LIS IN ASIA

Total 378 e-prints from Asia are included in E-LIS. The country wise distribution shows that the maximum e-prints are from India i.e. 234 (61.90%) followed by China i.e. 65 (17.20 and the by Indonesia i.e. 24 (6.35%). The details are shown in Table No. 3.

**Table No.3: Country wise ASIA distribution of E-prints in E-LIS (28-06-06)**

Sr. No.	Country	No. of E-prints	Percentage
1	Bangladesh	2	0.54
2	China	65	17.20
3	India	234	61.91
4	Indonesia	24	6.35
5	Iran	16	4.23
6	Israel	1	0.26
7	Japan	4	1.06
8	Kuwait	3	0.79
9	Lebanon	1	0.26
10	Malaysia	1	0.26
11	Nepal	1	0.26
12	Pakistan	9	2.38
13	Philippines	2	0.54
14	Singapore	1	0.26
15	South Korea	1	0.26
16	Sri Lanka	2	0.54
17	Taiwan	1	0.26
18	Thailand	8	2.12
19	United Arab Emirates	1	0.26
20	Vietnam	1	0.26
Total		378	100

#### 10. COUNTRY WISE DISTRIBUTION OF E-PRINTS IN E-LIS IN AFRICA

Country wise distribution of e-prints in Africa shows the dominance of South Africa. Out of 31 total e-prints, 24 (77.41%) are from South Africa. The details are illustrated in Table No. 4

**Table No. 4: Country wise distribution of E-prints in E-LIS in Africa (28-06-06)**

Sr. No.	Country	No. of E-prints	Percentage
1	Botswana	1	3.23
2	Kenya	1	3.23
3	Senegal	2	6.44
4	Zambia	1	3.23
5	Nigeria	1	3.23

6	South Africa	24	77.41
7	Zimbabwe	1	3.23
Total		31	100

#### 11. COUNTRY WISE DISTRIBUTION OF E-PRINTS IN E-LIS IN NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA

The dominating country from North and Central America in contributing maximum e-prints to LIS is Cuba with 360 e-prints forming 41.28%. It is followed by USA i.e. 259 (29.70%) e-prints. The details are included in Table No. 5

**Table No. 5: Country wise distribution of E-prints in E-LIS in North and Central America (28-06-06)**

Sr. No.	Country	No. of E-prints	Percentage
1	Canada	81	9.28
2	Costa Rica	9	1.03
3	Cuba	360	41.28
4	El-salvador	1	0.12
5	Mexico	159	18.23
6	Nicaragua	1	0.12
7	Puerto Rico	2	0.24
8	United State	259	29.70
Total		872	100

#### 12. COUNTRY WISE DISTRIBUTION OF E-PRINTS IN E-LIS IN SOUTH AMERICA

The dominating country from South America in contributing maximum e-prints to LIS is Brazil with 99 e-prints forming 31.23%. It is followed by Argentina i.e. 70 (22.08%) e-prints. The details are included in Table No. 6

**Table No. 6: Country wise South America distribution of E-prints in E-LIS (as on 28-06-06)**

Sr. No.	Country	No. of E-prints	Percentage
1	Argentina	70	22.08
2	Bolivia	22	6.94
3	Brazil	99	31.23
4	Chile	44	13.88
5	Columbia	23	7.26

6	Peru	1	0.32
7	Uruguay	4	1.26
8	Venezuela	4	1.26
9	Others	50	15.77
Total		317	100

### 13. COUNTRY WISE DISTRIBUTION OF E-PRINTS IN E-LIS IN EUROPE

The dominating country from Europe in contributing maximum e-prints to LIS is Spain with 725 e-prints forming 31.63%. It is followed by Italy i.e. 571 (24.91%) e-prints. The details are included in Table No.7

**Table No. 7: Country wise Europe (2322) distribution of E-prints in E-LIS (28-06-06)**

Sr. No.	Country	No. of E-prints	Percentage
1	Austria	42	1.83
2	Belgium	33	1.44
3	Bosnia Herzegobina	10	0.44
4	Bulgaria	6	0.26
5	Croatia	80	3.49
6	Cyprus	13	0.57
7	Czech Republic	7	0.31
8	Denmark	7	0.31
9	Estonia	1	0.04
10	Finland	6	0.26
11	France	38	1.66
12	Germany	128	5.58
13	Greece	50	2.18
14	Italy	571	24.91
15	Luxemburg	1	0.04
16	Norway	4	0.18
17	Poland	31	1.35
18	Portugal	14	0.61
19	Republic of Ireland	2	0.087
20	Romania	2	0.087
21	Russia	5	0.22
22	Serbia & Montenegro	113	4.93
23	Slovakia	2	0.087



24	Slovenia	2	0.087
25	Spain	725	31.63
26	Sweden	11	0.48
27	Switzerland	32	1.40
28	Netherlands	34	1.48
29	Turkey	80	3.49
30	Ukraine	2	0.087
31	United Kingdom	240	10.47
Total		2292	100

#### 14. COUNTRY WISE DISTRIBUTION OF E-PRINTS IN E-LIS IN OCEANIA

The dominating country from Oceania in contributing maximum e-prints to LIS is New Zealand with 18 e-prints forming 54.55%. It is followed by Australia i.e. 15 (45.45%) e-prints. The details are included in Table No. 8

**Table No. 8: Country wise Oceania (33) distribution of E-prints in E-LIS (as on 28-06-06)**

Sr. No.	Country	No. of E-prints	Percentage
1	Australia	15	45.45
2	New Zealand	18	54.55
Total		33	100

#### 15. YEAR WISE DISTRIBUTION OF E-PRINTS IN E-LIS

Table No. 9 shows year wise distribution of e-prints in E-LIS. It has been observed that the maximum e-prints are being published or submitted to E-LIS in the time period of 2000 to present. This means that E-LIS covers the most recent information. 3056 (51.22%) e-prints are from the period 2000to present are included followed by year 1950-1960 time period i.e. 2093 (35.08%).

**Table No. 9: Year wise distribution of E-prints in E-LIS**

Sr. No.	Year	No. of E-prints	Percentage
1	1950-1960	2093	35.08
2	1960-1970	1	0.02
3	1970-1980	1	0.02
4	1980-1990	10	0.17
5	1990-2000	806	13.51
6	2000-Present	3056	51.22
Total		5967	100.00

## **16. INDIAN CONTRIBUTION IN E-LIS**

It has been observed that Indian authors are contributing to E-LIS generously. In Asia continent, India is the most dominant country in the contribution of e-prints to E-LIS. The contribution of Indian authors to E-LIS has been studied in detail during the project. Total 234 E-prints are contributed by Indian authors to E-LIS.

## **17. AUTHORSHIP PATTERN OF INDIAN CONTRIBUTORS TO E-LIS**

The authorship pattern of Indian contributors to E-LIS has been shown in Table No. 10. It has been observed that Joint authorship pattern is dominant with 80 e-prints (i.e. 34.19%) followed by Single Authorship i.e. 74 (31.62%) e-prints. Only one example of Institutional Authorship is observed.

**Table No.10: Indian contribution in E-LIS articles**

Sr. No.	Authorship & pattern	No. of Articles	Percentage
1	Single author	74	31.62
2	Double author	80	34.19
3	Three author	49	20.94
4	Four author	30	12.82
5	Institutional author	01	0.43
Total		234	100

## **18. TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIAN CONTRIBUTORS**

It is observed from Table No. 11 that total 502 Indian authors contributed 234 articles in E-LIS. This table has been used to rank the authors.

**Table No. 11: Total number of Indian contributors**

Sr. No.	Authorship	No. of e-prints	Total authors
1	Single author	74	74
2	Double author	80	160 (80 X 2)
3	Three author	49	147 (49 X 3)
4	Four author	30	120 (30 X 4)
5	Institutional author	001	001
	Total	234	502

## 19. RANKING OF INDIAN AUTHORS

The ranked list of Indian authors is reported in Table No. 12. It has been observed that the maximum articles contributed to LIS from Indian authors is by V.L. Kalyane i.e. 68, followed by Vijay Kumar at second position with 27 articles, closely followed by Kademani B.S. at third position with 26 articles.

**Table No.12: Ranked List of Indian Authors**

Sr. No.	Rank	Name of Author	No. of articles
1	I	Kalyane, V. L	68
2	II	Vijai Kumar	27
3	III	Kademani, B. S.	26
4	IV	Raman Nair, R.	21
5	IV	Prakasan, E. R.	21
6	V	Vijayakumar, J. K.	18
7	VI	Sen, B. K	16
8	VI	Angadi, Mallikarjun	16
9	VII	Koganuramath, M.M.	14
10	VII	Das, Anup Kumar	14
11	VIII	Anil Kumar	11
12	IX	Swarna, T.	10
13	X	Murthy, T. A. V.	9
14	XI	Chandra, Harish	8
15	XI	Anil Sagar	8
16	XII	Vijayakumar, Manju	6
17	XII	Singhal, Madhuresh	6
18	XII	Ghosh, T. B.	6

19	XII	Francis, A. T.	6
20	XII	Devarai, Rajashekhar S.	6
21	XIII	Sonker, Sharad Kumar	5
22	XIII	Kalyane, S. V.	5
23	XIII	Jange, Suresh	5
24	XIII	Dutta, Bidyarthi	5
25	XIV	Khan, M. T. M.	4
26	XIV	Kadam, S. N	4
27	XIV	Basimalla, Solomon Raju	4
28	XV	Prasanna, T.S.	3
29	XV	Lewison, Grant	3
30	XV	Lalit Mohan	3
31	XV	Kademani, A. B.	3
32	XV	Dutta, Chaitali	3
33	XVI	Vidyasagar Rao, K	2
34	XVI	Upadhye, R.P.	2
35	XVI	Tiew, Wai Sin	2
36	XVI	Srivastava, Divya	2
37	XVI	Sreenivasulu, V.	2
38	XVI	Shivakumar, A. S.	2
39	XVI	Shashi Nath, S.	2
40	XVI	Sangam, S. L.	2
41	XVI	Sagar, Anil	2
42	XVI	Prakash, Thushara	2
43	XVI	Patel, Yatrik	2
44	XVI	Parmar, Arvind Singh	2
45	XVI	Munnolli, S. S.	2
46	XVI	Mulla, K. R.	2
47	XVI	Maruthu Pandian, B.	2
48	XVI	Manjunath, G.K.	2
49	XVI	Kundra, Ramesh	2
50	XVI	Kumar, Sanghmitra A.	2
51	XVI	Karanjai, Aruna	2
52	XVI	Kanamadi, Satish T.	2
53	XVI	Jayakanth, Francis	2
54	XVI	Hosamani, H. G.	2
55	XVI	Gunjal, Bhojaraju	2
56	XVI	Chandrashekar, M.	2
57	XVII	Weerasooriya, W.A.	1
58	XVII	Venkatappaiah, V.	1
59	XVII	Venkatalakshmi, K.	1
60	XVII	Varalakshmi	1
61	XVII	Tiew, W. S.	1
62	XVII	Tara Ashok,	1
63	XVII	Taib, C.A.b.	1

64	XVII	Surwase, Ganesh	1
65	XVII	Subramanian,	1
66	XVII	Story, Alan	1
67	XVII	Singh, Sukhdev	1
68	XVII	Singh, Manoj	1
69	XVII	Shyamala	1
70	XVII	Shukla, B. K.	1
71	XVII	Shadrach, B.	1
72	XVII	Savanur, Kiran	1
73	XVII	Satyanarayana, K.	1
74	XVII	Sampat Kumar, B. T.	1
75	XVII	Samanta, R. K	1
76	XVII	Sahu, Satya Ranjan	1
77	XVII	Sahu, D.K.	1
78	XVII	Rudrabatla,	1
79	XVII	Raveendran, Asari K	1
80	XVII	Rana, Madan S.	1
81	XVII	Ramesh, L. S. R. C. V.	1
82	XVII	Ramesh, Badnapuri	1
83	XVII	Pujar, S.M.	1
84	XVII	Pothare, R. C.	1
85	XVII	Pitroda, Sam	1
86	XVII	Phool Chand	1
87	XVII	Pandita, Naina	1
88	XVII	Padmamma, S.	1
89	XVII	Nagaraju, A. V. S. S.	1
90	XVII	Nabar, Geeta W.	1
91	XVII	Munshi, Usha M	1
92	XVII	Moorthy, R	1
93	XVII	Mishra, Shesh	1
94	XVII	Mehta, Pratap Bhanu	1
95	XVII	Mannan, Adam.	1
96	XVII	Manjunath, M.	1
97	XVII	Mandal, Minati	1
98	XVII	Madan, V. K.	1
99	XVII	Ling, Lim Bee	1
100	XVII	Lal, Banwari	1
101	XVII	Kushwah, Shivpal Singh	1
102	XVII	Kumbar, M F	1
103	XVII	Kumar, Pradeep	1
104	XVII	Kulkarni, Sheshagiri R.	1
105	XVII	Keen, Khong Wye	1
106	XVII	Kaur, Kiran	1
107	XVII	Kamble, Pradeep S	1
108	XVII	Kadli, Jayadev H.	1

109	XVII	Jeevan, V.K.J.	1
110	XVII	Jain, N. C.	1
111	XVII	Hussain, M. V.	1
112	XVII	Hussain, K. H.	1
113	XVII	Humayoon Kabir, K.	1
114	XVII	Hiremath, C. V.	1
115	XVII	Hazarika, Tilak	1
116	XVII	Hassan, M.F.b.	1
117	XVII	Halbert, Debora	1
118	XVII	Gupta, Rajiv	1
119	XVII	Gudodagi, Shashikant C.	1
120	XVII	Goswami, Kusuma	1
121	XVII	Ghosh, S. B.	1
122	XVII	Garai, Atanu	1
123	XVII	Ganguly, Ashok	1
124	XVII	Gaba, Surinder Kumar	1
125	XVII	Dutt, Bharvi	1
126	XVII	Dhiman, A. K.	1
127	XVII	Devarai, Kanyakumari S.	1
128	XVII	Deokathey, Sangeeta	1
129	XVII	Das, Pritimoni	1
130	XVII	Darch, Colin	1
131	XVII	Damodaram, T.	1
132	XVII	Cholin, V. S.	1
133	XVII	Chikkamallaiiah	1
134	XVII	Chawla, A.	1
135	XVII	Chan, Leslie	1
136	XVII	Bhattacharya, Sujit	1
137	XVII	Bhatt, Rakesh K.	1
138	XVII	Bhargava, P.M.	1
139	XVII	Basu, Aparna	1
140	XVII	Bandi, Anand	1
141	XVII	Balakrishnan, M. R.	1
142	XVII	Arunachalam, Subbiah	1
143	XVII	Arora, Jagdish	1
144	XVII	Agarwal, Sunita	1
145	XVII	Abdullah, Abrizah	1
146	XVII	Abdul Razak, C.	1

## 20. CONCLUSION

Open access is a burning topic today and it is the need of the hour. Academic and research communities should realize this fact and should submit their research works to open access archives so that their work can be widely accessed throughout the world.

E-LIS is a disciplinary archive dedicated to the subject Library and Information Science and it is a step towards redefining open access.

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